

# Republic Day of India

Publicity

## India a top global investment destination

By H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy  
Ambassador of India

On the occasion of the 68th Republic Day of India, I extend warm greetings to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan, the government and the friendly people of Japan, and to fellow Indians in Japan.

On Jan. 26, 1950, India adopted its Constitution and became a sovereign and democratic republic. The Republic Day is a symbol of our democracy and pluralism which provide equality and justice to all citizens.

Buddhism has created a celestial bridge between India and Japan, and fostered congruence in our outlook. We share values of openness, respect for the rule of law

and an abiding commitment to peace. Today, we are engaged in consolidating our traditional friendship and forging a Special Strategic and Global Partnership. We have a growing convergence on strategic and economic issues. Japan is a valued economic partner for India.

The successful visit of H.E. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, to Japan in November 2016 has imparted fresh momentum to our relationship. There exists a high degree of mutual trust and confidence between India and Japan.

India is making rapid economic progress under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Modi. India's large domestic market, macro-economic stability and competitive low-cost manufacturing have enabled it



President of India  
H.E. Pranab Mukherjee



Prime Minister of India  
H.E. Narendra Modi



Ambassador of India  
H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy

to emerge as the world's most attractive investment destination. In recent years, India has consistently been ranked by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) as the most-preferred medium-term destination for outbound investment for Japanese manufacturing companies. Japan is today the

fourth-largest investor in India and India is Japan's largest official development assistance (ODA) partner. Japan is actively involved in clean energy, skill development and infrastructure projects in India.

India has taken steps to boost economic growth and foreign direct investment. Among them are the

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, Commercial Courts and legislation for the Goods and Services Tax.

The Indian diaspora in Japan contributes to our friendship and cooperation. It is a matter of great pride that Prof. Sandip K. Tagore, a professor emeritus of Otemon Gakuin University in Osaka, figures in the list of awardees this year for the government of India's Pravasi Bhartiya Samman (Overseas Indian Award) in recognition of his contribution to arts and culture.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe have declared 2017 to be a "Year of India-Japan Friendly Exchanges." A good augury is the visit to India in January of Japan's Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, H.E. Hiroshige Seko, to participate in the "Vibrant

Gujarat Global Summit."

India attaches great importance to enhanced people-to-people contacts. The government of India has extended a "visa-on-arrival" facility, 10-year business visas and the "e-tourist visa" to Japanese travelers. Growing links between India's states and Japan's prefectures stand as testimony to our vibrant partnership.

The Special Strategic and Global Partnership between India and Japan is a defining relationship of the 21st century. Our close friendship and deepening cooperation contributes to peace, prosperity and stability in Asia and the Indo-Pacific region.

I wish you all great happiness, good health and success in the Year of the Rooster.

### PM Modi's visit sets new milestone MPs promote ties with India Future of India-Japan ties

By Yoshiro Mori  
Chairman of the Japan-India Association

On the occasion of the 68th Republic Day of India, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the government and people of India on behalf of the Japan-India Association.

Japan-India ties have been constantly developing in recent years and saw the establishment of another milestone during the visit to Japan of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in November.

In addition to intensifying already deepening security and diplomatic dialogue and cooperation, and enlarging economic and business contacts, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Prime Minister Modi



Yoshiro Mori

finally inked the long-awaited Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. This agreement will make possible Japan-India cooperation in energy security and climate change solutions.

A project to construct a Mumbai-Ahmedabad Shinkansen line, already agreed upon by the two governments, has been furthered by the visit of the two leaders to a Shinkansen manufacturing factory in Kobe during the Indian prime minister's stay in Japan.

Another encouraging result was the decision of the two governments to take various measures to increase scholarships and internships for young people and facilitate tourism in both directions.

The Japan-India Association marks its 114th year in 2017 since its foundation. We are determined to continue our contribution to Japan-India relations.

By Hiroyuki Hosoda  
President of the Japan-India Parliamentary Friendship League

The Japan-India Parliamentary Friendship League would like to extend its heartfelt congratulations to the people of India on the occasion of the 68th Republic Day of India.

Japan and India share universal values such as democracy, human rights and the rule of law, and maintain friendly relations founded on a long history of exchange.

In November, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Japan and held a summit meeting with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, substantially advancing the "new era in Japan-India relations." They agreed that the two countries would lead the prosperity and stability of the Indo-Pacific region as a result of coordinating the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy" and the "Act East" policy.

In September, members of our league visited India and called on Prime Minister Modi. We became convinced that the combination of Japanese technology and capital with India's young human resources and market further contribute to the prosperity of Asia and the world.



Hiroyuki Hosoda

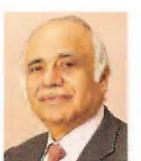
By Ryuko Hira  
Honorary President of the Indian Commerce and Industry Association Japan

The world faces new challenges and these need new solutions. The demand for a more just, equitable and progressive world economic order is becoming pronounced. Rapidly changing strategic scenarios in Asia have led to Japan's increasing ties with India over the past few years.

In recent years both India and Japan have developed a common interest in the elimination of economic backwardness, political turmoil and social instability from their immediate neighborhoods as well as from distant areas. Thus, the cause of progress and prosperity is the basis of this partnership.

While the two countries have yet to fully utilize the potential provided by the process of economic development for mutual benefit, more remains to be done both in bilateral relations and in the context of the changing global situation, which calls for wisdom and sage practical judgment on the part of Indian and Japanese statesmen alike.

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Ryuko Hira

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Publicity

## Japan's investment in India up 6-fold in 10 yrs

By Hiroaki Nakanishi and Kazuo Hirai

On behalf of Keidanren, we wish to extend to the government and people of India our heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of their 68th Republic Day.

In addition to a history of diplomatic ties that now stretches back more than 60 years, Japan and India have cultivated excellent ties and a relationship of genuine closeness through cooperation in a wide range of fields, including politics, the economy and culture. In recent years the two countries' political leaders have visited each other every year. Particularly on the economic front, the stock of Japanese investment in India has increased six-fold over the past 10 years, while the number of Japanese companies operating in India has increased to more than 1,200. The Japanese and Indian economies are more closely linked than ever before.

Economic cooperation through the combination of Japanese technology with India's outstanding human resources has been enhanced with the aim of further accelerating Make in India, Act East and other policies initiated

by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in such fields as: The Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Project, which symbolizes the new age of close cooperation between Japan and India; the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor and its related projects; and many manufacturing industries including the automotive, electronics and electric industries. We hope that economic cooperation between Japan and India will continue to deepen further in the years to come.

In this context, coinciding with Prime Minister Modi's visit to Japan in November, the Japanese and Indian business communities held the ninth Japan-India Business Leaders Forum in Tokyo, exchanging views on pro-



Hiroaki Nakanishi



Kazuo Hirai

moting cooperation in the fields of economic partnership and improving the business environment, as well as innovation, environment and energy issues and infrastructure development, with a view to further strengthening economic ties. As its policy proposals, the forum compiled a joint report that was submitted to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Prime Minister Modi. Keidanren has high expectations that the two leaders will exercise strong leadership to realize prompt and steady progress regarding the report's proposals for infrastructure to improve the business environment and other efforts. For their part, the business communities of the two countries will make efforts to work closely together. We ask all stakeholders for their continued support and cooperation.

Mr. Nakanishi is chairman and CEO of Hitachi, Ltd., Keidanren vice chairman and chair of the Keidanren Committee on South Asia. Mr. Hirai is president and CEO of Sony Corporation and chair of the Keidanren Committee on South Asia

## Strengthening business cooperation with India

By Masami Iijima  
Chairman, the Japan-India Business Cooperation Committee, and Chairman of the board of directors, Mitsui & Co., Ltd.

On behalf of the Japan-India Business Cooperation Committee (JIBCC), I would like to offer my most sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 68th Republic Day of India.



Masami Iijima

As two of Asia's largest democracies, Japan and India have built particularly amicable relations based on common strategic interests and shared values. In particular, the growing economic interest of each country has been of great significance. According to surveys of Japanese corporations conducted by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, it has been found that India has ranked as the leading country for three consecutive years

in terms of optimism for business prospects in overseas investment. I believe that the increase of Japanese involvement in India will serve as a driving force for the growth of Asia as a whole.

JIBCC was established half a century ago to enhance mutual understanding and friendship and to promote bilateral economic relations. It holds joint meetings on a regular basis with its Indian counterpart, the India-Japan Business Cooperation Committee. We held the 41st joint meeting in October 2016 in New Delhi and discussed various issues to enhance bilateral trade and investment relations between the two countries amid a very cordial atmosphere. To facilitate the strengthening of Japan-India economic ties, we are all committed to further dynamic action.

In closing, please allow me to reiterate my sincere congratulations on this important Republic Day of India together with my very best wishes for India's further development and prosperity in the days and years ahead.

## Indian people around world celebrate big day for India with pride

By Shri Ram Kalani Pessumal  
Honorary President of Indian Chamber of Commerce Japan

On behalf of the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Japan, I would like to convey my congratulations on the 68th Republic Day of India, a big day for India and its people that is celebrated with a heart full of pride and reverence.

It is a well-known fact that what makes India strong is its unity in diversity. We come together to celebrating this remarkable day, and we would like to reach out to all Indians to stop and pause on this day. To reflect upon the history that has brought the mother nation so far for so long.

We are honored to have an Indian prime minister who has great charisma. He has accomplished many difficult tasks in India, such as easing foreign direct investment, launching the "Make in India" program and demonetization.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's actions leave the business community in awe. Having put India on the global map, Indians feel proud and elevated at seeing the mother nation shaping into an international phe-



Shri Ram Kalani Pessumal

nomenon.

Many interesting facts about the Republic Day of India, which commemorates the date on which the Constitution of India came into force, are not known to everyone. A few of them are listed below and we hope you will find them interesting. The Constitution, which took two years, 11 months and 18 days to be completed, is the longest constitution in the world — it cannot be read in one day. Since its inception, there have been 94 amendments.

We heartily congratulate the government of India and Indian people across the globe on this important day and look forward to a brighter future for India. Jai Hind.

**Wish you a Happy Republic Day 2017**

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